

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

sub B1

00/2250" FEF2/960

1. An apparatus comprising:
 a first audio input/output connector;
 at least one second audio input/output connector;
 an audio controller;
 a circuit coupling the first audio input/output connector to the audio controller;
 at least one circuit coupling at least one second audio input/output connector
 to the audio controller; and
 a device electrically decoupling the first audio input/output connector from the
 circuit coupling the first audio input/output connector to the audio
 controller when an audio input/output device is coupled to at least one
 second input/output connector.

2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the device electrically decoupling
 the first audio input/output connector from the circuit coupling the first audio
 input/output connector to the audio controller when an audio input/output device is
 coupled to at least one second input/output connector comprises a transistor.

3. The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the transistor is a field effect
 transistor comprising a drain, a source, and a gate, wherein the drain is coupled to the
 first audio input/output connector, the source is coupled to ground, and the gate is
 coupled to at least one second audio input/output connector such that current flows
 into the gate when an audio input/output device is coupled to a second audio
 input/output connector to which the gate is coupled.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1, comprising a direct-current blocking cap,
 wherein the device is coupled between the direct-current blocking cap and at least one
 second audio input/output connector.

sub B1

5. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the device electrically decoupling
 the first audio input/output connector from the circuit coupling the first audio

pub 81

3 input/output connector to the audio controller when an audio input/output device is
4 coupled to at least one second input/output connector comprises a mechanical switch.

1 6. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the first audio input/output
2 connector comprises a jack.

1 7. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the second audio input/output
2 connector comprises a jack.

1 8. A computer system, comprising:
2 a processor;
3 a memory coupled to the processor;
4 an audio controller coupled to the processor;
5 a first audio device input/output connector coupled to the audio controller;
6 at least one second audio device input/output connector coupled to the audio
7 controller; and
8 a device electrically decoupling the first audio input/output connector from the
9 circuit coupling the first audio input/output connector to the audio
10 controller when an audio input/output device is coupled to at least one
11 second input/output connector.

1 9. The computer system of Claim 8, wherein the device electrically
2 decoupling the first audio input/output connector from the circuit coupling the first
3 audio input/output connector to the audio controller when an audio input/output
4 device is coupled to at least one second input/output connector comprises a transistor.

1 10. The computer system of Claim 9, wherein the transistor is a field effect
2 transistor comprising a drain, a source, and a gate, wherein the drain is coupled to the
3 first audio input/output connector, the source is coupled to ground, and the gate is
4 coupled to at least one second audio input/output connector such that current flows
5 into the gate when an audio input/output device is coupled to a second audio
6 input/output connector to which the gate is coupled.

00/260" FET/960

1 11. The computer system of Claim 8, comprising a direct-current blocking
2 cap wherein the device is coupled between the direct-current blocking cap and at least
3 one second audio input/output connector.

12. The computer system of Claim 8, wherein the device electrically decoupling the first audio input/output connector from the circuit coupling the first audio input/output connector to the audio controller when an audio input/output device is coupled to at least one second input/output connector is a mechanical switch.

1 13. The computer system of Claim 8, wherein the first audio input/output
2 connector is a jack.

1 14. The computer system of Claim 13, wherein the second audio
2 input/output connector comprises a jack.

1 15. The computer system of Claim 8, wherein the second audio
2 input/output connector comprises a jack.

1 16. A method for disabling a computer system audio device input/output
2 connector, the method comprising:
3 detecting the coupling of an audio input/output device to a first audio
4 input/output connector; and
5 uncoupling at least one second audio input/output connector from a circuit
6 coupling at least one second audio input/output connector to the audio
7 controller when the coupling of an audio input/output device to the
8 first audio input/output connector is detected.